

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2355

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS PARIS 21472

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB, FR

SUBJECT: FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE: BANK SECURITY

1. THE EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN REQUESTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE VISIT TO THE U.S. BY A THREE-MEMBER TEAM INTERESTED IN THE PROTECTION AND SECURITY OF BANKS AND SIMILAR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. THE TEAM IS COMPOSED OF CLAUDE BEAUJEAN, PRESIDENT OF THE CGC BANK EMPLOYEES FEDERATION, PERHAPS THE LARGEST SUCH UNION IN FRANCE; JACQUES LE MOINE, DIRECTOR OF SECURITY OF FICHET-BAUCHE; AND RENE WEGELIN (SWISS), DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SECURITY OF FICHET-BAUCHE.
 2. THE TEAM WILL BE VISITING NEW YORK 4-11 OCTOBER IN CONNECTION WITH THE EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCES ORGANIZED BY THE NEW YORK BANKS ASSOCIATION AROUND THE THEME OF "SECURITY AND PROTECTION." ACCORDINGLY, THE TEAM WOULD APPRECIATE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET DURING THE PERIOD 4-15 OCTOBER WITH NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT, FBI HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, AND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR IF THERE ARE ANY OFFICIALS IN THAT DEPARTMENT WHO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF BANK SECURITY AS IT MAY AFFECT EMPLOYEES' SAFETY. TEAM, AND ESPECIALLY BEAUJEAN, WOULD BE INTERESTED IN
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MEETING WITH OFFICERS OF UNIONS WHO ARE ALSO CONCERNED

WITH SECURITY PROBLEMS.

3. FICHET-BAUCHE IS WELL KNOWN COMPANY SPECIALIZED IN CONSTRUCTION OF SAFES AND SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES. THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO SOLVING THE BANK SECURITY PROBLEM WAS THE DESIGN OF A SYSTEM WHEREBY AT THE PRESS OF A BUTTON OR SOME OTHER DEVICE EVEN LESS PERCEPTIBLE, A BULLET-PROOF, OPAQUE PLATE RISES FROM THE COUNTER TO THE CEILING IN 7/10 OF ONE SECOND, THEREBY PROVIDING FULL PROTECTION AGAINST ATTACK. IT IS REPORTED THAT ABOUT 30 BANK BRANCH OFFICES IN FRANCE HAVE ALREADY BEEN EQUIPPED WITH THIS SYSTEM WHICH SO FAR HAS FRUSTRATED THREE ROBBERY ATTEMPTS.

4. BEAUJEAN IS ALSO ONE OF THE ORGANIZERS OF AN INTERNATIONAL MEETING IN DUBLIN 11-18 SEPTEMBER TO BE ATTENDED BY 35 BANK EMPLOYEES UNIONS IN BOTH EAST AND WEST EUROPE TO DISCUSS SECURITY AND PROTECTION. GAMMON

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